To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg re JFK assassination records 8/4/78
not provided - pictures

Yesterday I wrote you about JFK assassination pictures that had not been provided, about the FBI's refusal to respond to my letters on them and about learning of some that had been made available to another and not to me. In today's mail I have the enclosed letter relating to two other pictures, both of the time and at the scene of the crime.

Years ago I gave up on my efforts to see the second of these pictures. Recently, in the Dallas Field Office records, I learned that the FBI had made copies of them immediately and had kept this fact secret.

My third book is on the withholding of photographic evidence. These pictures are discussed in detail, including the shuffling of them back and forth to Mrs. Norman. The records the FBI gave the Warren Commission state that each time the pictures were needed they were obtained from Mrs. Norman, directly or through the Secret Service, and each time the Commission looked at them they were returned. The Dallas records I have just examined show that the first time the FBI latched onto these pictures it copied them.

What makes this more provocative is the fact that the Dallas records also reflect the fact that this woman and her companion both appear to have regarded it as a national need to inform the FBI every time anyone wanted to speak to them. Reports of witnesses in the JFK and King assassinations being instructed not to talk are common.

I have seen no such records among those in the National Archives.

The Dallas records reflect also that the FBI was not interested in pictures unless they showed Oswald in the window with a rifle in his hands.

As a result some important photographs have disappeared forever.

This includes most of five reels of professional TV cameraman coverage of the search of the building from which the FBI says all shots were fired, for your information. If this is of interest, consulting my third book under the indexing of Alyea, Thomas, will tell the story from the FBI records available before the end of April 1967, when I wrote that book. Remarkably enough, there are no such records in the Dallas files I've just examined.